

A PROMISE TO FIRST DO NO HARM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, when I first became a doctor, I made a promise that I would never perform, assist, or support in any abortion or any abortion procedures. All doctors take an oath. They swear to first do no harm. I made a promise that I would never participate in the taking of a human life.

At 10 weeks a baby in their mother's womb has developed a beating heart. At 11 weeks, the baby will have developed elbows, fingers, and toes. And at 27 weeks, a baby inside the womb can hear their mother's voice. It is clear that these children are human—constructed in the image of God—and worthy of protection and worthy of love.

It is time to protect human life, it is time to protect the unborn, and it is time to end this egregious practice of abortion.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF DR. GEORGE HRUZA

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Dr. George Hruza.

A graduate of New York University, Dr. Hruza went on to complete both a dermatology residency at New York University Medical Center as well as a laser surgery fellowship at Harvard Medical School. Later, Dr. Hruza completed a Mohs and dermatologic surgery fellowship at the University of Wisconsin-Madison with Dr. Fred Mohs.

Dr. Fred Mohs developed this revolutionary surgery—a technique that allows for the precise removal and the repair of skin cancer.

Throughout his career, Dr. Hruza has proven himself to be a leader in the field of dermatology. His tireless commitment to his patients and their families has undoubtedly saved countless lives.

Dr. Hruza has come to Washington and done skin cancer screenings for members of staff and Members of Congress—several who might be present here today.

As the American Academy of Dermatology's president, Dr. Hruza's relentless advocacy for innovation has helped to shape the way that skin cancer today is treated in the United States. Skin cancers were previously deadly. My own grandfather died from skin cancer, a skin cancer that would be treated today by someone like Dr. Hruza and cured.

It is my privilege to call Dr. George Hruza a leader, a colleague, and a friend of the United States Congress. As he continues his work as the United Skin Specialists Missouri director, I wish Dr. Hruza every continued success; his success in working to treat patients, his success in developing innovation, and his success as one of the leaders in dermatology not just in the

United States but throughout the world.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, as the coauthor of the bipartisan Strengthening Career and Technical Education in the 21st Century Act—the largest reform of skills-based education in more than a dozen years—I rise today to celebrate one institution that has become a national exemplar.

I am honored to join Congressman AUGUST PFLUGER from Texas in recognizing Dr. Gregory Williams at Odessa College. Odessa College has been named a top-10 community college by the Aspen Institute. Dr. Williams has seen both enrollment as well as students with passing grades increase year after year.

When we reformed CTE in 2018 and increased Federal funding by over 10 percent, we did so with educators like Dr. Williams in mind.

I commend Dr. Williams and Odessa College for their tremendous success. I will continue fighting for robust funding for skills-based and vocational education funding so that programs like Odessa's can flourish in my State of Illinois as well as across the country.

NATIONAL AMERICORPS WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, this week many people will be celebrating National AmeriCorps Week. I will not be one of them. AmeriCorps has been around for almost 30 years, and in that time we have learned never to underestimate the ability of the Federal Government to muck things up.

No one denies that AmeriCorps began with good intentions, and I applaud the philanthropic spirit of those who volunteer out of a genuine desire to help those in need. However, I cannot applaud a bloated bureaucratic organization that is the poster child for fraud and mismanagement.

AmeriCorps is entrusted with 1.1 billion taxpayer dollars every single year. And every single year AmeriCorps proves it is an expert at wasting taxpayer funds.

For example, some AmeriCorps programs cost taxpayers four to eight times more money than programs that perform identical services. Even more concerning is the fact that neither Congress, the Inspector General, nor AmeriCorps itself have an idea of how taxpayer dollars are being managed. In fact, AmeriCorps' financial statements are so bad that they have not been able to be audited for the past 5 years.

According to AmeriCorps' Inspector General, if this occurred at a private organization there would be a "whole-sale resignation or firing of the leadership team, and the public would be shorting their stock."

Even more concerning is the lack of oversight AmeriCorps provides over its grantees that are plagued with fraudulent activity. For example, a Hawaiian nonprofit executive was recently sentenced to 46 months in prison for embezzling over \$500,000 from AmeriCorps, and a school district in St. Louis was found guilty of encouraging AmeriCorps volunteers to falsely inflate time sheets.

The private sector often does the same work as AmeriCorps but at a fraction of the price and with far less waste, fraud, and mismanagement.

It is our job as Members of the House of Representatives to ensure that taxpayer funds are protected. The power of the purse is one of our most important constitutional duties. We therefore must stop feeding the black hole that is AmeriCorps and instead empower States and local governments to meet the needs of their residents.

The last time AmeriCorps' programs were reauthorized was in 2009 with the passage of the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act which was named in honor of the late Senator who was the author of the legislation that governs many of AmeriCorps' programs.

Yet, despite the support for national service, Senator Kennedy himself emphasized the importance of proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars, noting during a 1993 floor speech on the establishment of the corporation that "Congress will not, and should not, fund a program if it is unsuccessful."

I agree with him. AmeriCorps has had 29 years to prove itself, and the only thing it has proven is that it is a drain on taxpayers and a massive disappointment. This is a failed agency that needs to be overhauled completely or just eliminated.

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CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT BIDEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate President Biden for the progress our Nation has made this past year. In early 2021, the President took office during a global crisis and was determined to get America back on track. He knew we needed a comeback. He knew we needed to focus on building a better America.

So what did President Biden do? He invested in the American people, and he invested big. The boom was beginning.

In March 2021, the American Rescue Plan was signed into law. In total, a historic \$1.9 trillion were put to work for the American people during the severe public health and economic crisis caused by COVID.

Since then, the American Rescue Plan has been helping us recover. We are now enjoying one of the strongest periods of economic growth in history, and we are building a better America.

If we look at the progress we have made over the past year, Madam Speaker, we can see how successful the American Rescue Plan truly has been.

The plan powered historic jobs recovery and produced the largest calendar increase in jobs on record. The unemployment rate dropped at a record pace, but we have also seen the biggest drop in long-term unemployment ever recorded in a 12-month span. Nearly 2.5 million people broke out of the cycle of long-term unemployment. Madam Speaker, this is huge.

As the Representative of a majority Latino district, I was especially proud to learn there were record drops in Latino and African-American unemployment rates. African-American unemployment fell by more than 30 percent. Latino unemployment fell from nearly 9 percent to 4.4 percent, the fastest drop ever recorded.

These are hardworking Americans going back to work, putting food on the table, and earning good paychecks. This is building a better America.

We have seen that when Americans have job opportunities, great things happen, and they do. That is why we also saw the lowest number of home foreclosures ever recorded. We also witnessed a record low number of credit card delinquencies.

The American Rescue Plan isn't only helping working adults. The American Rescue Plan's historic child tax credit benefits nearly 40 million families with 65 million children.

Madam Speaker, in my own home State, the child tax credit directly benefits nearly 7 million children, many in our area of Houston. Madam Speaker, that is a whole lot of children. Most families in Texas will receive several thousand extra dollars because of the increased 2021 child tax credit.

Because of these historic tax credits, child poverty rates have been slashed dramatically. In only 1 year, unemployment is at a record low, job opportunities are on the rise, and child poverty rates have been reduced. We are building a better America for all.

I am so proud we have a strong leader in the White House who is leading America to full recovery. President Biden got it right, Madam Speaker. He understood that betting on the American people is always a good idea. With the right resources, America will win. We will all win. It is just that simple. Together, we really are building a better America.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF DAVID RUDD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KUSTOFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the legacy of

David Rudd, who is retiring as the president of the University of Memphis.

Dr. David Rudd came to the University of Memphis in 2013 as the provost for the university. He had previously served as the dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Science and scientific director of the National Center for Veterans Studies at the University of Utah.

President Rudd succeeded Dr. Shirley Raines as president and Brad Martin as interim president of the University of Memphis, becoming the University of Memphis president in 2014.

The University of Memphis has a student population of around 22,000 students, with 17 bachelor's degrees in more than 250 areas of studies, master's degrees in 54 subjects, doctoral degrees in 26 disciplines, and graduate certificate programs in 44 areas of study. The University of Memphis also has one of the finest law schools in the southeast United States.

No matter your alma mater, one thing most can agree on is that it is extremely challenging leading a school of higher education today, especially in the era of COVID.

With that said, the University of Memphis has flourished under David Rudd's tenure as president. There have been a number of major accomplishments during this time. Maybe the most significant achievement during the David Rudd era is the University of Memphis obtaining the research classification known as R1 by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. For the first time in its history, this puts the University of Memphis in the top tier of research universities across the Nation.

I asked my friend, Doug Edwards, the chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Memphis, about David Rudd. Doug told me: "David Rudd is a transformative leader who has had a profound impact on the University of Memphis. He has elevated the stature of the university to that of the second flagship university in Tennessee and a top-tier research institution."

Soon Dr. Rudd will take a well-deserved sabbatical from his leadership and administrative duties. When he comes back to the University of Memphis in the next year, he will return to teaching and research as a distinguished professor of psychology and will run the new Rudd Institute for Veteran and Military Suicide Prevention at the University of Memphis.

The institute is appropriately named. As a veteran of the Gulf war and a former Army psychologist, David Rudd is one of the Nation's leading experts on suicide prevention among our Nation's veterans.

We wish the utmost best to him and his wife, Dr. Loretta Rudd, herself a distinguished educator and researcher in higher education.

On behalf of the many alumni and residents of the Eighth Congressional

District of Tennessee, Roberta and I congratulate, salute, and honor David Rudd for his remarkable and outstanding tenure as the president of the University of Memphis.

HONORING REVEREND FRED SHUTTLESWORTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Alabama (Ms. SEWELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a true civil rights pioneer, Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth, ahead of what would have been his 100th birthday on Friday, March 18.

Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth was a civil rights activist who led the fight against segregation and other forms of racism as a minister in Birmingham, Alabama. He was a cofounder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, initiated and was instrumental in the 1963 Birmingham campaign, also known as Project C, for confrontation, to desegregate the city of Birmingham.

Regarded as one of the most courageous civil rights fighters in the South by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Reverend Shuttlesworth was a fearless freedom fighter who always stood up for what is right.

Shuttlesworth participated in the sit-ins against segregated lunch counters in 1960 and took part in the organization and completion of the Freedom Riders in 1961.

Throughout his amazing career, despite experiencing violent intimidation and numerous attempts on his life, Reverend Shuttlesworth remained vigilant in his fight for civil rights. The noted pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church is recognized as the key leader and organizer of the civil rights movement in Birmingham, Alabama.

In recognition of his lifelong dedication, President Clinton awarded Reverend Shuttlesworth the Presidential Citizens Medal in 2001. Shortly after, in 2008, the Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport was named in his honor.

Although Reverend Shuttlesworth died at the age of 89 on October 5 of 2011, he has a long list of accomplishments. To that, the city of Birmingham is designating this Friday, March 18, as the Reverend Shuttlesworth Day in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birthday.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and the city of Birmingham to pay tribute to the extraordinary life and legacy of Reverend Fred Shuttlesworth as we designate March 18 as Reverend Shuttlesworth Day.

HONORING MRS. BEATRICE PRICE

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Beatrice Price, a pioneering Army nurse to the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, who passed away at the age of 98 on March 4, 2022.

Joining the military shortly after completing nursing school, Mrs. Price